

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 - 23 are in the application.

In the Office Action the Examiner indicated that the application contains claims directed to three species (i.e. species A, B, and C). Species A has initial contact between the substrate and the mask occurring at only selected locations with continued motion bringing all surfaces into contact. Species B uses a mask having a mating surface that has a first curvature, a substrate having a mating surface with a second curvature, and wherein the radius of the first curvature is less than that of the second curvature at initial contact. Species C has a mating surface of the mask being more convex relative to that of the substrate at initial contact.

In response to this restriction, Applicant elects species A. Applicant hereby indicates that claims 1 - 23 fall within the scope of species A. Independent claim 1 contains the feature that the Examiner indicated as distinguishing Species A. Independent claim 14 contains the feature that the Examiner indicated as distinguishing Species B. Independent claim 17 contains the feature that the Examiner indicated as distinguishing Species C. Claims 21 - 23 have been added as dependent claims. Claim 21 narrows the mask and substrate initial contact relationship from that of claim 1 down to that of claim 14. Claim 22 narrows the mask and substrate initial contact relationship from that of claim 1 down to that of claim 17. Claim 23 narrows the mask and substrate initial contact relationship from that of claim 14 down to that of claim 17. Since it is possible to write dependant claims based on claim 1 that yield the scopes of claims 14 and 17, claim 1 must be considered generic to the species associated with those claims.

In view of the amendments and remarks, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance. If any questions should arise concerning this application (or if it would otherwise be useful to discuss this application) please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned by phone.

Respectfully submitted,



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